

Creating Cohesion Across Paragraphs

When the ideas within and across paragraphs link well together we say the paragraph has **cohesion**.

You can think of **cohesion** like glue holding the paragraphs together.

Good writers use a number of strategies to create cohesion in their writing.

- Paragraphs are in a clear, logical order.
- The information is always clear and relevant to the purpose of writing.
- Words are specifically chosen for purpose and effect.
- A range of cohesive devices help the text to flow and link sections sensibly and effectively.

Some examples of cohesive devices:

- Adverbials, e.g. of time, place or to provide clarification, emphasis, exception etc.
- Repetition of a word or phrase to create effect or link sections of a text.
- Ellipsis, leaving out words or phrases which are expected or predictable to avoid the repetition of unnecessary information, making the writing clearer and more succinct.

Why cohesion is important:

- It keeps order in the paragraph.
- Related ideas are kept together.
- Makes it easier for the reader to understand the text.
- Ideas flow more smoothly.
- Provides links between ideas.

